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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/554,408	11/30/2006	Leander Grode	2923-737	4545
6449 7590 11/16/2010 ROTHWELL, FIGG, ERNST & MANBECK, P.C. 1425 K STREET, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20005				
EXAMINER				
SWARTZ, RODNEY P				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1645				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
11/16/2010		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

PTO-PAT-Email@rfem.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/554,408

Applicant(s)

GRODE ET AL.

Examiner

Rodney P. Swartz, Ph.D.

Art Unit

1645

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 September 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 and 39-48 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32, 40-42 and 44-48 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 39 and 43 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB06)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ ~~Notice of Informal Patent Application~~
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicants' Response to Office Action, received 17 September 2010, is acknowledged. Claims 39, 41, 43, 44, 45, 46 and 47 have been amended. New claim 48 has been added.
2. Claims 1-32 and 39-48 are pending and under consideration.

Rejections Withdrawn

3. The rejection of claim 40 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement, is withdrawn in light of the claim amendments
4. The rejection of claims 41, 42 and 44-47 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement, is withdrawn in light of the claim amendments.

Rejection Maintained

5. The rejection of claim 39 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement, is maintained.

As newly amended, claim 39 is now drawn to a method of treating a mammal having tuberculosis, comprising administration of the urease-deficient bacterial cell of claim 1 which comprises a recombinant nucleic acid molecule encoding a fusion polypeptide that elicits an immune response to tuberculosis. The polypeptide domain is selected from a group consisting of: autoantigens, tumor antigens, virus antigens, parasite antigens, bacterial antigens, and immunogenic fragments thereof that elicit an immune response to said tuberculosis.

The instant specification does not teach a method for treating tuberculosis utilizing an immunogen which is an autoantigen, tumor antigen, virus antigen, parasite antigen or fragments thereof. Thus, the specification does not describe this subject matter in such a way to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the

application was filed, had possession of a method of treating tuberculosis by administration of a urease-deficient bacterial cell which comprises an autoantigen, tumor antigen, virus antigen, parasite antigen or fragments thereof.

6. The rejection of claim 43 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement, is maintained.

Claim 48 is drawn to a method of eliciting an immune response to a disease state by administration of a urease-deficient bacterial which comprises a recombinant nucleic acid molecule encoding a fusion polypeptide that elicits an immune response to said disease state.

As newly amended, claim 43 now depends from newly added claim 48, and is drawn to a method of eliciting an immune response in a mammal having "a tumor" and said administration of said bacterial cell treats the tumor. The instant specification does not teach that merely eliciting an immune response is sufficient to treat tumors. Thus, the specification remains insufficient in conveying that, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed treatment method.

Conclusion

7. Claims 39 and 43 are finally rejected.

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a)

will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Rodney P. Swartz, Ph.D., Art Unit 1645, whose telephone number is (571) 272-0865. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Wednesday from 9:00 AM to 7:30 PM EST. Thursday is the examiner's work at home day.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, please contact the Examiner's Supervisor, Larry Helms, at (571)272-0832.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Rodney P. Swartz, Ph.D./

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1645

November 10, 2010